

After all, jumping out of an airplane is a very unnatural act. The simple fact that riggers jump with their own parachutes instills confidence throughout the entire airborne community. “Lives depend on our expertise, so we make all attempts to stay at the top of our game,” said CW3 Wood.

The Riggers are assigned to DDSP's Air Delivery and Textile section. The section's workforce is comprised of 21 multi-functional civilians and eight military riggers.

The section's mission is multi-purpose – the combined workforce inspects repairs, modifies, packs, stores, and issues Federal Stock Class (FSC) 1670 Aerial Delivery Equipment (ADE) and related items for the Department of Defense (DOD). They manage five separate operational sections that provide contingency cargo parachute re-pack, depot-level ADE repair, military free fall and static line airdrop, warehouse operations, and the manufacturing of aircraft acoustical blankets for the Air Mobility Command (AMCOM).

The Riggers also serve as advisors to other agencies on the status of depot aerial delivery assets reserved for war contingency and training.

The DDSP Parachute Riggers are an elite group of individuals who provide technical knowledge of all airborne units and their equipment. They are the only group of Parachute Riggers assigned to DLA.



Left to right, back row: Army Airborne Riggers CW3 Kevin Wood, SFC Mark Hearn (ILSC, Natick), SSG Michael Morris, SGT Randolph Policar, and SGT Anthony Penson. Front Row: SGT Eri Ramos and SFC Chris Rafuse (104th Infantry Detachment LRSD).

## Contingency training great tool for supporting Warfighters

*By Jose Abreu, DDC Reserve Affairs and Mobilization Office*

Designed to provide designated personnel deployed with troops in an active theater of operations with the information necessary to represent DLA, the Materiel Management Contingency Training (MMCT) has proved once again to be a great training course.

“MMCT is the single best way to begin working in the world of DLA logistics. The curriculum, the degree of difficulty and the duration are perfect. The instructor's knowledge and enthusiasm make the logistics learning experience fun and rewarding,” said LCDR “Rope” Burns, DLA Customer Support Representative in Iraq and Commanding Officer of Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Navy Reserve Unit DDYJ1 from Sioux Falls, SD.

The course includes an in-depth description of requisition processing at retail and wholesale levels of supply. MMCT focuses on sources of requisitioning and delivery of information available to DLA representatives, including how to interpret and apply the information to the solution of logistical problems that could inhibit combat operations.

“The students have been exposed to a myriad of systems that they would not normally encounter in their normal duty assignments and are now ‘Super Commodity Expeditors.’ All in a very short period of time,” said Pat Calhoun, instructor of the MMCT from the DLA Training Center.

Although the bulk of instruction deals with how DLA provides repair parts, the course covers all types of supply items managed and delivered by DLA to include clothing, medical supplies, subsistence, and fuels.

“This class compresses about a month of instruction into a week's time frame.

It requires diligence, attention to detail and homework to prepare them for the ‘big test in the sky’ when they are actually down range shoulder to shoulder with the Warfighters,” said Calhoun.

“The MMCT class was extremely well prepared with hands-on sessions, allowing us to comprehend the lessons. Good use of repetition was used to ingrain the concepts. We enjoyed Pat Calhoun,” said SKC Ronald Scheaffer, Executive Officer, NR DDC Detachment A-106.

Attendance to MMCT is limited to those persons nominated for deployment with a DLA Contingency Support Team (DCST). To learn more about DCST, please contact the DDC Reserve Affairs & Mobilization Office at (717)770-6166 or [DDC.Mobilization@dla.mil](mailto:DDC.Mobilization@dla.mil).



*Students attend a week-long DLA Materiel Management Contingency Training (MMCT) course.*

